Dear

This is our final response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request of 22 October 2008 for "Copy of the documents released in Case Number 56796, including any copies of the CRITIC messages and any follow up reports from September 11, 2001 relating to United Airlines Flight 93." A copy of your request is enclosed. Your request has been processed under the FOIA and records responsive to your request are enclosed. Certain information, however, has been deleted from the enclosures.

This Agency is authorized by statute to protect certain information concerning its activities, as well as the names of its employees. Such information is exempt from disclosure pursuant to the third exemption of the FOIA, which provides for the withholding of information specifically protected from disclosure by statute. The specific statute applicable in this case is Section 6, Public Law 86-36 (50 U.S. Code 402 note). We have determined that such information exists in these records, and we have excised it accordingly.

In addition, some information responsive to your request is based upon a Reuters News Service report. As do many government agencies and private industries, NSA subscribes to Reuters News Service and is prohibited by contract from further public dissemination as NSA is not the owner nor the originator of the information. Provision of this information would be in direct violation of our subscription contract and could result in NSA losing this news service; therefore, the information provided to NSA by Reuters News Service is protected against disclosure pursuant to 5 U.S.C. Section 552(b)(4) and is exempt from release pursuant to the fourth exemption of the FOIA.

The Initial Denial Authority for NSA information is the Deputy Associate Director for Policy and Records, Since these deletions may be construed as a partial denial of your request, you are hereby advised of this...
Agency’s appeal procedures. Any person denied access to information may file an appeal to the NSA/CSS Freedom of Information Act Appeal Authority. The appeal must be postmarked no later than 60 calendar days from the date of the initial denial letter. The appeal shall be in writing.

The appeal shall reference the initial denial of access and shall contain, in sufficient detail and particularity, the grounds upon which the requester believes release of the information is required. The NSA/CSS Appeal Authority will endeavor to respond to the appeal within 20 working days after receipt, absent any unusual circumstances.

Information that was not responsive to your request has been redacted from the records and annotated “Non-responsive”.

Please be advised that the records responsive to your request include documents containing North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) information. NORAD is a bi-national command; therefore, it is not subject to the FOIA. Because we were unable to obtain release approval from NORAD, and to avoid further delays in processing your request, the NORAD information has been redacted with the notation “OGA” which stands for Other Government Agency.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Chief
FOIA/PA Office

Encls:
a/s
From: webteam@nsa.gov [webteam@nsa.gov]  
To: FOIANET  
Sent: Wed 10/22/2008 7:00 PM  

Subject:  
Attachments:  

Name:  
Email:  
Company:  
Address:  
City/State/ZIP:  
Country:  
Home Phone:  
Work Phone:  

Records Requested:  
I request a copy of the documents as released in Case Number 56796,  
including any copies of the CRITIC messages and any follow up reports  
from September 11, 2001 relating to United Airlines Flight 93.  

Thank you for your consideration of this request.
SECRET

COMMENT: (U) According to Press, a hijacked 757 airliner originating from JFK Airport crashed during the late 1300Z or early 1400Z hour on 11 September in rural Pennsylvania, apparently the fourth aircraft involved in the 11 September terrorist plot (END OF COLLATERAL).

(5) Further reporting on these incidents and on any follow-on activity will be reported in normal NSA reporting series at a precedence commensurate with the information.

DECL ON: X1, X3, X5, X6, X7, X8
XXHH

SECRET SPOKE FOLLOW-UP-2 AND FINAL TO DIRNSA CRITIC 1-2001

Approved for Release by NSA on 09-30-2010, FOIA Case # 56796
SECRET SPOKE FOLLOW-UP-2 AND FINAL TO DIRNSA CRITIC 1-2001

OQA


DECL ON: X1

AU063631

DECL ON: X1, X3, X5, X6, X7, X8
XXHH

SECRET SPOKE FOLLOW-UP-1 TO LATERAL CRITIC 1-2001

SECRET SPOKE FOLLOW-UP-1 TO LATERAL CRITIC 1-2001

DECL ON: X1

AU063631

DECL ON: X1, X3, X5, X6, X7, X8
XXHH

SECRET SPOKE LATERAL CRITIC 1-2001

S: ZCZCSWC9096SQA5274
ZITMZFDY 1863 2541352-MNSH-
ZNY MNSH ZFD-
ZKZK ZZ III ZNZ DE
Z 111352Z SEP 01 ZYH
FM DIRNSA
TO NSA/ROMEO
W 111349Z SEP 01 ZYH
FM DIRNSA
TO DIRNSA
ZEM

SECRET SPOKE LATERAL CRITIC 1-2001
QQQQ


DECL ON: X1

XXHH
From tran@nsoc.do.nsa Tue Sep 11 16:21 GMT 2001
From: TRAN DESK <tran@nsoc.do.nsa>
Date: Tue, 11 Sep 2001 16:21:20 GMT
Sender: tran@nsoc.do.nsa
Reply-To: tran@nsoc.do.nsa
To: nsocall@nsoc.do.nsa
Subject: Aircraft Disasters
Classification: SECRET//CONINT//HI
X-Sun-Charset: us-ascii
Content-Type: text
Content-Length: 841

All,

Just got off the phone with FAA Ops center, & was told
the following:

- 1st aircraft to crash into World Trade Center:
  American Airlines flt 11, Boeing 767 a/c, bound Boston-LAX
- 2nd a/c, WTC:
  United Airlines flt 175, Boston-LAX, 18 minutes after 1st
  American Airlines flt 77, Dulles-LAX, possibly crashed area
  Kentucky/Ohio border
- United Airlines flt 93, NY-San Fran, crashed vicinity Johnston

-NOTE: the a/c that crashed at the Pentagon was *NOT* regular
  scheduled flight, and did *NOT* file a flight plan

LSO: ALL Schools in the State of Maryland are closing ATT

'YI...'

regards,

(b)(3)-P.L. 86-36

ISOC - Team 5
transnational Issues Desk Officer
63-3941(s)
01-688-5123(stu-iii)

RV FM: NSA/CSSM 123-2
DATED: 24 FEBRUARY 1998
ECL CH: X1,X3,X5,X6,X7,X8

Approved for Release
by NSA on
09-30-2010, FOIA
Case # 56796
SUBJECT: CIA OPS CENTER RELOCATING; FAA GROUNDING FLIGHTS IN AND OUT OF U.S.

SOURCE REFERENCES:

TEXT: CIA OPS CONVENES TO STATE THAT THEY ARE RELOCATING TO ANOTHER AREA AND WILL PASS ALONG PHONE NUMBERS ONCE IN THEIR POSITION. NMCC THEN BROKE IN WITH NEWS FROM FAA THAT THE VICE CHAIRMAN HAS ORDERED A GROUNDING OF ALL FLIGHTS NATIONWIDE UNTIL THE CULMINATION OF THIS EVENT. FAA STATES THAT AS OF 1335Z, ALL FLIGHTS HAD IN FACT BEEN GROUNDED AND APPROXIMATELY 225 FLIGHTS REMAINED IN THE AIR. THOSE FLIGHTS WERE WELL WEST OF OHIO AT THIS TIME. ALSO NOTED WAS THAT A PLANE HAS CRASHEE 16 MILES SOUTH OF JOHNSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA AND IT IS UNCONFIRMED THAT THIS WAS THE REPORTED MISSING FLIGHT 93. NOSC REPEATED CRITIC FOLLOW-UP INFORMATION AS FOLLOWS: A BOEING 767 AIRCRAFT ORIGINATING FROM JFK INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT IN NEW YORK WAS HIJACKED AND HEADING FOR DC AS OF 1339Z. TWO USAF F-16'S HAVE INTERCEPTED THE AIRCRAFT. THERE IS NO FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT THIS TIME.

SENIOAS ADVISED:


CH PROD: X CH PI: X CH PB: X 


Derived From: NSA/CSSM 123-2 
Dated: 24 February 1999

Approved for Release by NSA on 09-30-2010, FOIA Case # 56796